



**Joint Legislative Oversight Committee  
on Health and Human Services  
November 29, 2016  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Social Services  
Child Welfare Services Improvements - Updates**



# Child Welfare System Investments

**2013-15**

- **Permanency Innovation Initiative**

**Children's Home Society to provide:**

- Family Finding
- Child Specific Recruitment
- Training for County DSS

**2014**

- County CPS workers to address caseload
- 9 Additional Staff for County Performance Improvements
- Child Protective Services Statewide Evaluation
- Child Protective Services Pilot Program (accessing criminal records and other information to ensure safety)



# Child Welfare System Investments, cont.

## 2015-17

- **Transitional Living Initiative Fund**

Youth Villages to provide services that will:

- Improve outcomes for youth ages 17-21 years who transition from foster care through implementation of outcome-based Transitional Living Services
- Identify cost-savings in social services and juvenile and adult correction services associated with the provision of Transitional Living Services to youth aging out of foster care
- Take necessary steps to establish an evidence-based transitional living program available to all youth aging out of foster care



# Child Welfare System Investments, cont.

## 2015-17 cont.

- **Fostering Success – Extend Foster Care to 21 years of age**
  - Begins January 1, 2017
  - State and Federal funding
  - Program designed to assist in preparing for independence
- **Foster Care Family Act**
  - Normalcy for children served by Foster Care
  - Notification to relatives and siblings



# Child Welfare System Investments, cont.

## 2016 adjustments

- **21 additional positions to address:**
  - Training Staff (7)
  - County Program Support (4)
  - Family Foster Home Licensure (4)
  - Child Fatality Reviews (3)
  - Planning and Evaluation - using data to improve outcomes (3)
- **Service Supports (non-recurring)**
  - Training for County Staff
  - Intensive Family Preservation Services
  - Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)



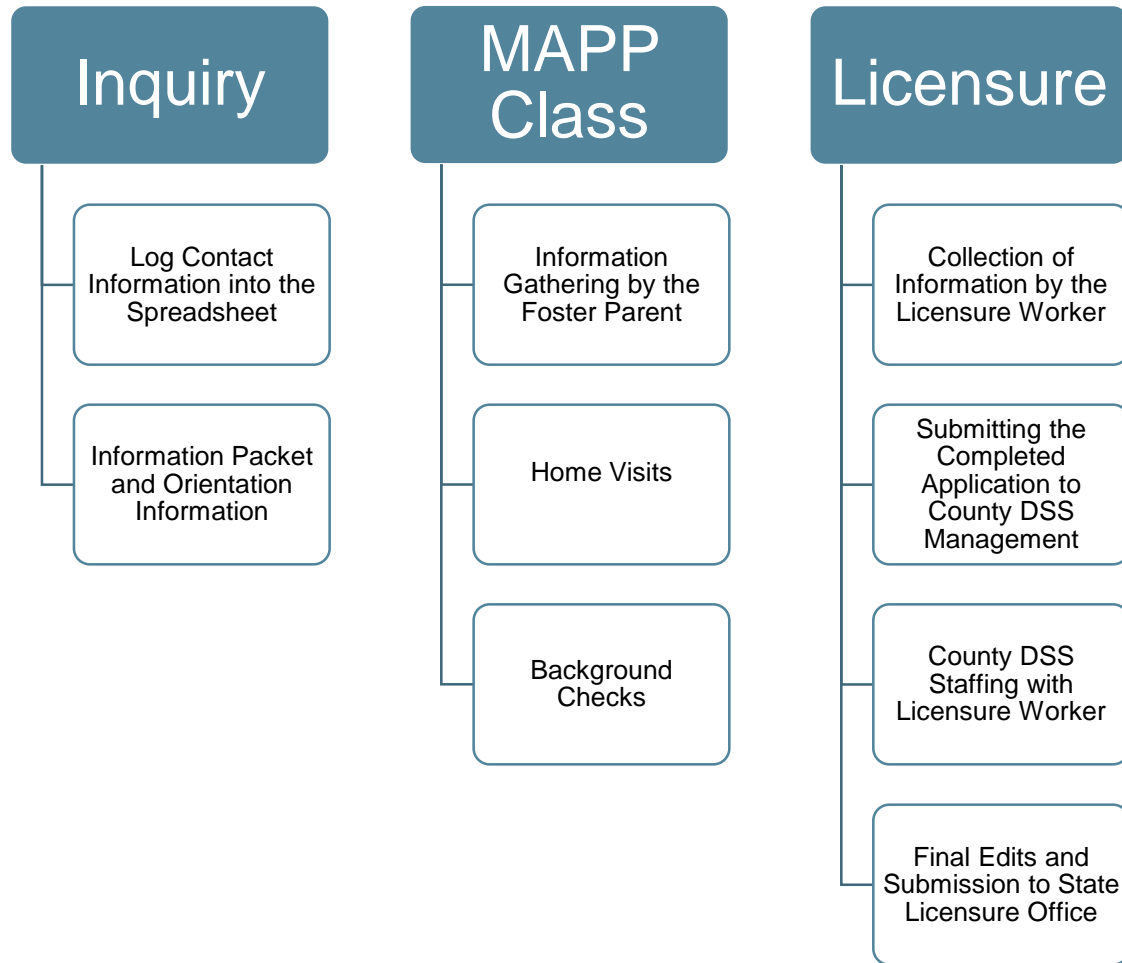
# Child Welfare Improvement Efforts

- **County Performance Improvements**
  - All counties have been reviewed and have a Program Development Plan to address improvements
  - Random selection of cases to be reviewed in accordance with the PIP measurement plan
- **Family Foster Home Licensure**
  - 185 local agencies (counties and private agencies) who work with identified families to provide training and ensure all requirements are met
  - These local processes typically take 6 to 9 months
  - The local agency is the support agency for the family
  - State DSS conducts quality assurance based on review of materials received and issues licenses/relicense and changes
  - State level processes take up to 2 months, depending on adherence to applicable laws and rules



# Family Foster Home Licensure – cont.

- New Licensure Process for Moore County DSS



# Questions